

## Apache Rotor Gets A Trim

When the Apache Longbow was introduced in the early 1990s, advanced composite rotor blades had yet to prove they could stand up to combat. After a series of recently concluded tests, the U.S. Army is now ready to make the switch. The composite blades will be lighter and more aerodynamic than those currently in use on Longbows. They also will have a longer service life, says a spokesman for developer Boeing Integrated Defense of Mesa, Ariz. The Army will take delivery of 269 improved Longbows by 2006.

